Prepared by 6MM-AM, updated 4/14/17

Seiling, Oklahoma, PM2.5 Monitor 40-043-0860-88101-3

AQS indicates ODEQ began operation of the Seiling $PM_{2.5}$ continuous monitor on 8/21/14. The monitor is located in Dewey County, Oklahoma, about 60 miles east of the Oklahoma and Texas state line. The data from the monitor is NAAQS comparable.

NAAQS - The available data from the Seiling monitor indicates the ambient air in the area is not approaching the $PM_{2.5}$ NAAQS levels of **35 µg/m³ for 24-Hours** and **12 µg/m³ for Annual**.

Design Value (DV) Information, all units in µg/m³

	2014*		2015		2016		DV- 3 Year Average	
	24 Hours 98th Percentile	Annual Average	24 Hours 98th Percentile	Annual Average	24 Hours 98th Percentile	Annual Average	24 Hours	Annual
40-043-0860-88101-3	16.6	6.2	15.5	6.5	13.5	5.9	**15**	**6.2**

*Incomplete year

Wildfires - The 'Incident Information System' website indicates a 'Northwest Oklahoma Complex' of wildfires started on 3/6/17, covered about 780,000 acres, and was contained on 3/22/17.

On 3/7/17, a wildfire started in the Texas panhandle area (Lipscomb County) located west of the Seiling Oklahoma. The 'Incident Information System' website indicates the 'Perryton' fire covered about 318,000 acres, and was contained on 3/12/17. The Perryton fire was located generally about 40 miles west of the Oklahoma and Texas state line.

Measures Exceedances - An ODEQ air quality health advisory for particulate matter was issued on 3/7/17. Also, ODEQ alerted EPA Region 6 on 3/8/17 about some recent Seiling $PM_{2.5}$ monitor 24-hours exceedances which may have been caused by wildfires.

Exceptional Events - Air agencies submit an exceptional event demonstration when requesting EPA to exclude ambient air monitoring data from regulatory decisions. Exceedances such as those experienced at the Seiling monitor are potential Exceptional Events. In 2016, the Exceptional Events Rule was revised (81 FR 68216, October 3, 2016). As a result of the 2016 revisions, 40 CFR 50.14(c)(2), requires an air agency to notify EPA of its intent to request the exclusion of an exceedance of an applicable NAAQS by creating an initial event description and flagging the data in the AQS database, and engaging in the Initial Notification of Potential Exceptional Event process. The 2016 revisions refuted prior general regulatory deadlines (e.g., July 1 annual AQS flagging, demonstration submittal). EPA Region 6 advises air agencies to coordinate with the region regarding the regulatory significance of the potential event, prior to starting the Exceptional Events Initial Notification process.

Annual Average – Based on current information, it does not appear that the March 2017 $PM_{2.5}$ 24 Hours exceedances at the Seiling monitor are sufficient to cause the 2017 Annual Average to approach 12 µg/m³. Of course, the measurements from the remainder of 2017 may change this assessment. If the Seiling monitor $PM_{2.5}$ 2017 Annual Average exceeds 12 µg/m³, this may not in itself have regulatory significance since the 3-year mean of the Annual Averages is used for regulatory NAAQS comparison.

24 Hours 98th Percentile – ODEQ indicates there were at least two 24 Hours exceedances during March 2017 at levels of 40+ µg/m^3. It is too early in the year to adequately assess whether the March 2017 $PM_{2.5}$ 24 Hours exceedances at the Seiling monitor are sufficient to cause the 2017 24 Hours 98th Percentile to exceed 35 µg/m^3. The 2015 24 Hours 98th Percentile of 15.5 µg/m^3 was the result of a year where the highest 24 Hours measurement was 33.3 and 9 out of 341 days had measurement above 15.5. Similarly, the 2016 24-Hours 98th Percentile of 13.5 µg/m^3 resulted from a year with a high of 21.3 and 8 out of 359 above 13.5. If the Seiling monitor $PM_{2.5}$ 2017 24 Hours 98th Percentile exceeds 35 µg/m^3, this may not in itself have regulatory significance since the 3-year mean of the 24 Hours 98th Percentile is used for regulatory NAAQS comparison.